



the Grebe

Mission of The Friends
of Deer Flat:

The purpose of this group is to promote, protect, and provide resources to preserve and enhance Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge for the enjoyment of present and future generations.

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Volume 4, Issue 1

Winter 2009

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION EVENT!

In 2009 our Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge will be 100 years old. This past year the staff at the Refuge has been working hard bringing the story and the history of the Refuge forward.

In May of 2009 we will be celebrating the 100 years of Refuge history. Dixie Blome and Noreen Tripp are forming a committee to put together a day of celebration and fun at the Refuge.

We need your help and input! We would like this celebration to be fun and educational for all who come. We would also like the day to showcase the importance of the Refuge.



Photo Copyright Mike Shipman

The Centennial Celebration Committee will have a meeting on:
January 10th 2009 @ 2p.m.
Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge Visitor's Center
13751 Upper Embankment Rd.

Please, come and join us. We have a lot of work to do, to make our celebration a success.

If you have any suggestions, questions or would like to talk about what you would like this Centennial Celebration Event to look like, please call:

Dixie Blome: 208-466-2148 or
Noreen Tripp 208-249-8162

President's Corner

Dear Friends,

WISHING YOU HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND A FANTASTIC 2009!!!!

We look forward to the coming year and to celebrating the 100th birthday of Deer Flat in May.

Thank you all for your support.

Lyndell Jackson, President



Presidents Past and Present

By Dixie Blome

(Left to right) Lyndell Jackson, Noreen Tripp, Lee McGlinsky

Lake Lowell quietly shimmers in the middle of Canyon County, surrounded by Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge. The refuge provides protection to local wildlife while allowing the residents of the Treasure Valley access to the recreational pursuits they enjoy. In December 2005, the first informational meeting was held to form a refuge Friends group. Lee McGlinsky was installed as the first president of the Friends of Deer Flat and during the first year (2006) the group worked to get the organization on its feet; setting up by-laws, obtaining tax exempt status, and securing grants to name a few of the first year accomplishments.

Noreen Tripp was elected as president during the 2nd year of the group. During her tenure, the Friends of Deer Flat helped with the construction of an observation/photo blind and a bookstore was opened in the Visitor Center.

During the 3rd year of the Friends of Deer Flat, Lyndell Jackson was elected to the position of president. Under Lyndell's tutelage the refuge was included in the Snake River Scenic By-way and Friends members helped with securing information for the new refuge historical trail.

Thank you for your hard work.

Mark your calendar...

Upcoming Events

Centennial Celebration Committee

Wednesday, January 10th, 2 p.m.

Lecture Series

Tuesday, January 13th, 7 p.m. - ***Deer Flat NWR - A Photographers Resource***

Volunteer Orientation

Wednesday, January 22nd, 7 p.m. (see page 5 for additional information)

Volunteer Orientation

Saturday, January 24th, 2 p.m.

Winter Photography Workshop

Saturday, January 31st (see page 4 for additional information)

Lecture Series

Tuesday, February 10th, 7:00 p.m. - ***Keeping fire on our Side; the Role Fire plays in Managing Public Lands***

Great Backyard Bird Count

Saturday, February 14th, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Join the Southwestern Birders Association for a national bird winter bird count.

Refuge Centennial

Join the 100 year celebration. Go to <http://www.fws.gov/deerflat> for additional information or call the refuge at 467-9278



The **Southwestern Idaho Birders Association** is hosting the 2009 Great Backyard Bird Count at the Refuge on February 14th. The program is geared to elementary aged children but everyone is invited to attend.

The count starts at 9:00 and continues until 1:00 p.m. There will be live birds, crafts, a nature walk and of course, birds will be counted!

For additional information, contact Peggy Williams at 867-5154 or peggylw_1@hughes.net.

The Grebe is published quarterly for the members of the Friends of Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge. If you have photos, stories, or other information for the Grebe, please email it to: idahobirder@hotmail.com or call 850-5885

Learn about Winter Photography at a Friends Photo Workshop January 31st



Professional photographer, wildlife biologist, and refuge volunteer Mike Shipman will lead a winter photography workshop at the refuge, sponsored by the Friends of Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge. Topics will include equipment and preparedness for winter photography, winter subjects, composition, and exposure. There will be a morning classroom session and an afternoon outdoor photography session. Digital and film cameras and all skill levels are welcome. Bring your camera, owner's manual, and any equipment you would like to use or get help

with. The workshop is \$125, with lunch included. For more information about the workshop, contact Mike Shipman (466-9340). To register, bring or send a check to Friends of Deer Flat, 13751 Upper Embankment Road, Nampa, ID 83686.

Photos Copyright Mike Shipman



**Congratulations to the Friends 2009 elected officers,
President Lyndell Jackson,
Vice President Noreen Tripp
Secretary/Treasurer Bob Christensen**

Volunteer for Wildlife at Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge



Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge will be holding volunteer orientation sessions on Thursday, January 22 at 7:00 PM and on Saturday, January 24 at 2:00 PM at the refuge Visitor Center. People interested in volunteering at the refuge are invited to attend one of these sessions to learn about the refuge, refuge wildlife, and volunteer opportunities. Refreshments will be served.

Right now, volunteers are particularly needed to help staff the Visitor Center on Saturdays. Saturdays are the only day when many people can visit the refuge, and the Visitor Center is usually staffed by volunteers on Saturdays. Volunteers are also needed to help with office work, educational programs, and habitat improvement projects. Special projects can be designed to match volunteers' skills with refuge needs. Training is provided, so potential volunteers

need only enthusiasm and a willingness to learn about the refuge and wildlife.

The refuge Visitor Center is located on the west end of the Upper Dam at Lake Lowell, and can be accessed from a new road at the corner of Indiana and Roosevelt. Anyone interested in volunteering or attending the orientation session can contact Susan Kain at 467-9278 or deerflat@fws.gov.



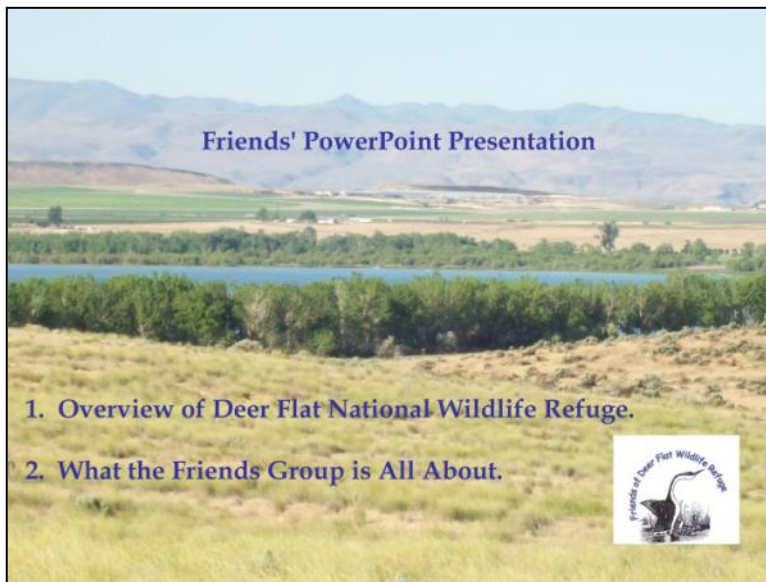
Great Blue Heron at the lower dam photo by
Denise Hughes

Western Screech Owl photo by Jim Iverson



Friends' PowerPoint Presentation

By Bob Christensen



Please consider showing the Friends PowerPoint presentation to your club, special group, or neighborhood organization. We guarantee that they will be happy to learn more about the refuge and its wildlife, and it will stimulate them to be stewards of our local treasure.

For information on the PowerPoint presentation or to schedule a showing, please call Bob Christensen at 454-2518.

In our younger days, we all recall media presentations that were rather archaic compared to today's standards of "highly polished" PowerPoint programs.

In Sunday school there were the Bible story filmstrips where one of the honor students had the task of forwarding the film as the teacher read the narration from a well-worn booklet. Most of the time the strip was one or two frames either behind or in front of the narrated facts.

In grade school, years ago, the main media were magazine pictures and charts hanging from the blackboard or taped to the wall along with the zillions of student-created arts and crafts. Occasionally, we got to watch a reel-to-reel movie, which we could hardly hear because of the loud clickety-click of the ancient projector. Often the bulb burned out well before the movie was over. When the teacher talked about blackouts during World War II, that's what we thought she was talking about.

Once in awhile, a teacher would drag out the old opaque projector, which was the size of a small sofa-chair and weighed as much, just to show us a National Geographic photo that she was forbidden to rip out of the magazine. In college, the professors delighted in using overhead projectors and scribbling all over the transparency with their wax pencils--making it almost impossible for us to take well-organized notes.

Then came the slide shows where we bored each other to death showing 400 colored slides of Grandma clipping her Poodle's toenails, or of Uncle John's detailed visit to his ancestral home in the fjords of Norway.

Thank Heavens we have more sophisticated techniques in today's age of electronic wizardry. Now we can flip through thousands of images in a quarter of the time, while searing the brain and stupefying the opposition.

Please be assured that the Friends PowerPoint Presentation is not in that category. It is a 20-minute well-organized program that gives:

(continued on page 7)

Friends' PowerPoint Presentation (con't)

1. An overview of the Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge, and
2. Tells what the Friends of Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge are all about.

Thus far the program has been shown at the General Friends Meeting in February of 2008; the Dessert in the Desert event in May when we invited refuge neighbors to come learn more about the refuge; the Nampa Rotary Club and Nampa Exchange Club in May; and to the Canyon County Sunrise Rotary Club this December. In all cases, the presentation was received with interest and commendation.



Time to renew your Membership

2009 will be upon us in a short few weeks and yes, **it's time to renew your membership**. Your gift is critical to our ongoing work to preserve and enhance Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge. With your help, we can fund projects like the photo/observation blind and help to educate the people of the Treasure Valley to the importance of the refuge.

Thank you for caring to support your values with your money. **Please continue your advocacy by renewing your membership today. We are strong and successful thanks to your support!!**

For your convenience, there is a renewal form at the end of the newsletter. Our current members do so much more for Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge than provide necessary financial support. FDFWR's credibility is greatly enhanced when we can point to YOU - a vital and growing membership from all walks of life from all over Idaho.

Be a Friend! Join Today!

Name

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Telephone

Email

Annual Membership Categories

<i>Owl (Senior & Student)</i>	<i>\$10</i>
<i>Deer (Individual)</i>	<i>\$15</i>
<i>Fox (Family)</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Osprey</i>	<i>\$50</i>
<i>Eagle</i>	<i>\$100</i>
<i>Goldeneye</i>	<i>\$500</i>

All contributions are tax deductible

*Please print this page and return with a check
payable to:*

*Friends of Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge
13751 Upper Embankment Road
Nampa, Idaho 83686-8046*





**FRIENDS OF DEER
FLAT WILDLIFE
REFUGE**

13751 Upper Embankment
Road
Nampa, Idaho 83686-8046

Executive Board:

President - Lyndell

Jackson (459-4740)

Vice President - Noreen

Tripp (468-0402)

Secretary / Treasurer - Bob

Christensen (454-2518)

*Newsletter - Denise Hughes
(850-5885)*

**We are on the web at
www.deerflatfriends.org**

To preserves and enhance Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge

The Grebe is published four times a year — look for the next issue in March 2009

Lecture Series Programs



**Tuesday, January 13th
Deer Flat National
Wildlife Refuge: A
Photographer's
Resource**

Come discover the refuge from a different point of view. This presentation will include a multimedia slide show of images photographer Mike Shipman has

captured on the refuge. Opportunities for photographers at the refuge will also be discussed.

Mike Shipman, Blue Planet Photography

**Tuesday, February 10th
Keeping Fire on Our
Side: The Role Fire
Plays in Managing
Public Lands**

This lecture will explore the history of fire as well as the current uses of fire as a management tool for public lands.

*Kelly Cardoza, USFWS
Fire Prevention and
Communications Officer*

